

News Buzz See kstatecollegian.com for updates on Korean attacks, Obama stitches and more.

Holiday Guide To read about holiday diversity and winter break planning, see G1-G4.

Fact, fiction or ignorance? Beth Mendenhall says Republicans are ignoring the science behind Global Warming.



Tomorrow: High: 37°F Low: 18 °F

Wednesday: High: 43°F Low: 26 °F

ZOOMING IN

Chinese delegation takes a look at K-State, fosters exchange

University officials work through obstacles for exhibit

Pauline Kennedy campus editor

Placed precisely on a single, white podium, one of the highest art forms in Chinese culture could be found. Carved delicately into a piece of bone measuring .5 centimeters in diameter — no bigger than a grain of rice — was the face of a tiger, one formed by 99 other tigers.

This is just a taste of the culture a delegation from Jilin University brought to K-State just before Thanksgiving break. The delegation's trip took place from Nov. 12 to Nov. 21.

A memorandum of understanding, signed by K-State and the Chinese university last summer, made official a nearly 10-year-old partnership between the two schools. The visit was the first to promote the new ceremonial agreement.

Jilin University, found in the Jilin province in the city of Changchun, is one of the most prestigious universities in the country. The delegation from the university brought with it a dose of Chinese art and music to display to K-State students.

It was a good chance to expose people to really high quality, high class, top-ranked Chinese artists and musicians," said Mike Philson, associate provost for international programs. "The individuals who came, the group of six, are very, very distinguished in their fields and are very well-known. I wanted to pair that up with International Education Week which happens every year in the United States.

The six delegates who visited were artists Liming Fu and Weishun Lei, and musicians Wei Miao, Liwei Wang, Shufang Yang and Zhinan Qu. The Office of International Programs, music and art professors and volunteers made the execution of the visit possible.

Miniature art

The focus of the visit surrounded the exhibition of the micro-carving art of Fu, chairman, professor and doctoral supervisor of Jilin University Art College. His miniature art is seen as one of the highest art forms created in China, and Fu is known for his artistic abilities.

To accompany the micro-carving bone piece, entitled, "99 Tigers Compose a Picture," were 14 other miniature art pieces.

For Fu, this art form has taken



Photos by Nathaniel LaRue | Collegian

Above: Liming Fu, visiting artist, looks over an exhibit Nov. 18 in the grain and science complex off of Kimball Avenue

Right: A minature carving of a Tiger, smaller than the tip of a finger, is showcased at the Jilin University exhibit. Micro-carving is a type of art form where the artist uses a carving tool to craft these small creations.

him more than 30 years to perfect.

"It is work not just in your hands It's your mind, your soul, your everything. It's your fiber sort of interconnected with the work you are doing. You become one together. That's the almost spiritual or miracle of this art itself," Fu said, with the translation of Wei Wu, director of K-State's Chinese language pro-

Micro-carving is an art form in which the artist uses a carving tool - with a point as thin as a strand of human hair — to carve seemingly impossible pictures without being able to see what he is doing. The carving requires the artist to use only feel to create a picture, and with such a small canvas, one mistake is detrimental to the picture. To fully see the finished product, a microscope is required.

"It's almost blind; you just have do it. Your whole human being like your intuition is in it," Fu said. "Your spirit is in it, and when you're done and look at it, that's the level the artist has to achieve."

Fu said although it is a small picture on the canvas, one can see a much bigger world within it. He said the advantage is it requires no language to fully appreciate it.

The small miniature, this microcarving, it's not just Chinese culture; it really has included international, a world culture," he said. "For example, 100 tigers, the tiger's image is worldly. Because you can enjoy and know that is beyond the boundary of our world and culture, and it's on this one piece. All languages can appreciate it ... the picture is worth a thousand words."

While the art exhibit, includ-



ing the micro-carvings as well as a painting exhibit, was the main focus of the delegation's visit, there was also a musical performance and classroom visits.

"It was very nice to hear the familiar Chinese music after so many years," said Max Lu, volunteer during the visit and associate professor of geography. "It has been many,

many years so I really enjoyed that, and I took my whole family there."

Lu also said he spoke with Fu about classroom visits and said Fu was very excited about the opportunity to speak with the American

See JILIN, Page 7

Former governor to speak

School year's first Landon **Lecture scheduled today**

As part of the 2010 Landon Lecture Series, Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and former governor of Kansas, is scheduled to speak at 10:30 a.m. today in McCain Auditorium.

Todd Holmberg, executive director for McCain, said admission is free for all students. This is the first Landon Lecture of the school year.

Sebelius served as governor of Kansas from 2003 until her appointment by President Barack Obama to the Cabinet in 2009.

The Department of Health and Human Services has a wide-ranging mandate and deals with programs that deal with Medicare, food safety, the flu and health effects of the Gulf oil spill.

Peace Corps applications up by 18 percent in 2009

Volunteer organizations has its pros and cons

junior staff writer

It has operations in 77 different countries and 200,000 trained workers. It is one of the most recognized organizations across the globe, and one of the few institutions that has made its mark on almost every part of the world.

Although this description sounds very much like the corporate giant Wal-Mart, these statistics are in reference to the U.S. Peace Corps.

When the Peace Corps was originally founded in 1961, it was often touted as, "A bunch of hippies that ran around trying to save the world." Even today, it might be frequently seen as - mostly by overprotective, proud parents — a cop-out for college students to rely on when they've had enough of school.

The 27-month national service stint, however, sounds like anything but a shortcut.

Culture shock

Consider being thrust into a foreign country with unfamiliar cultures, customs and forms of communication. Many of these countries have no way to correspond with family back home. The natives look and act differently, and it takes a concentrated effort to

earn their trust. And if the first thing that Tony Stark asked for after being held in captivity for three months was an American cheeseburger, think about how badly one is going to crave a rack of ribs after more than two years abroad. Considering these details, serving in the Peace Corps hardly seems like a walk in the park.

As a regional recruiter and Peace Corps member, Valerie Flynn spoke at a recent information and recruitment session at the K-State Student Union about the pros and cons about her own experience.

"The first six months of my service period was definitely a culture shock," Flynn said. "But, once I was able to embrace the differences, the opportunities that the Peace Corps gave me to make an

impact were invaluable." After spending two years in

China, Flynn dedicated herself to what was considered to be a rehabilitation initiative and led projects that worked with kids with physical and/ or mental disabilities and also taught English at a local uni-

"One of the biggest challenges I had turned out to be the differences in communication styles"

> Valerie Flynn Peace Corps member

versity.

Flynn's determination resulted in the founding of a local nonprofit organization called Seeds, which focuses on many of the same rehabilitation objectives.

A professional boost

With the economy in its current teeter-totter, more and more college students and recent graduates are looking toward national service programs as a way to kick-start

According to a Peace Corps news release, there was an 18-percent increase in applications in 2009. This suggests that this growing trend is a signal that young people are looking for ways to gain lifechanging experience that will help them succeed as a professional, while also developing fond memories and long lasting relationships.

Tie that with the Non-Competitive Eligibility status a volunteer receives post-service, Peace Corps members have a much easier time finding government jobs because they are automatically given highest priority in the application process.

"When I got back home, I wanted to give back to the Peace Corps and contribute more to the program," Flynn said, when asked about her post-service job search. "Because I had received the Non-Competitive Eligibility from my service, it was a lot easier to secure a federal job."

Making a difference

As a service worker, the opportunities to have an impact are plentiful. By training their volunteers with specialized skills, the Peace Corps sends out an army of personnel that is experienced and ready to handle the challenges that are presented to them in the various locations of the world.

There are several focus areas that volunteers serve including education, health and HIV/AIDS treatment, business development, environment, agriculture, youth development and several others depending on the host countries' needs.

During the two-year period, volunteers learn new languages, gain experience working with different people abroad and are exposed to many cultures the average American is not exposed to in his or her lifetime.

Not only does that set them apart from the competitive pool of job applicants down the road, but it also provides a specialized skill set. "One of the biggest chal-

lenges I had turned out to be the differences in communication styles," Flynn said. "I learned that in China people

See PEACE, Page 8

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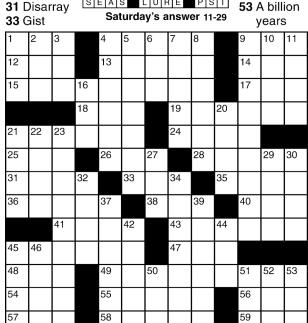
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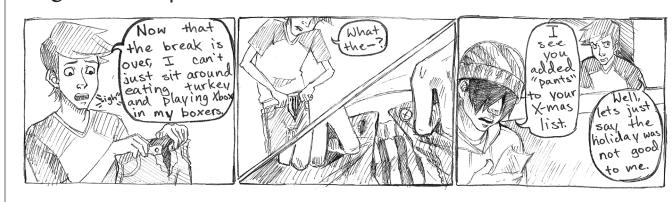
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also-ran



Logan's Run | By Erin Logan



THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

THURSDAY (Nov. 18)

Raymond Lloyd Gallant, of Ottawa, Kan., was booked for three counts of probation violation. Bond was set at \$1,750.

Dale John Kraft Jr., of Omaha, Neb., was booked for probation violation. No bond was listed.

George Marion Vangordon Jr., of Eudora, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$1,500.

FRIDAY

Donna Marie Helmholtz, of Leonardville, Kan., was booked for probation violation. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Corbin Spaulding Calvert, of the 300 block of 16th Street, was booked for the sale, distribution or cultivation of opiates or narcotics, use or possession of paraphernalia to introduce into the human body, possession of paraphernalia to grow or distribute marijuana and unlawful possession of hallucinogens. Bond was set at \$16,000.

Brandon Terrell Cox, of the 2400 block of Greenbriar Drive, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$6,250.

James Joseph Duggan, of the 600 block of Laramie Street. was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Osbie Vernell Johnson Jr., of the 1300 block of Pillsbury Drive, was booked for probation violation.

Bond was set at \$1,500.

Russell Royal Springer, of the 3700 block of Powers Lane, was booked for stalking and disorderly conduct. Bond was set at \$3,500.

Deairio Pushun Starks, of Junction City, was booked for probation violation. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Holly Elizabeth Starley, of the 1000 block of Leavenworth Street, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Justin Robert Wessling, of the 300 block of 16th Street, was booked for sale or distribution of hallucinogens or marijuana, possession of opiates, opium and narcotics, unlawful possession of hallucinogens, delivery or manufacture of drug paraphernalia and use or possession of paraphernalia to introduce into the human body. Bond was set at \$9,000.

SATURDAY

Daniel Jay Bennett, of the 1800 block of Todd Road, was booked for disorderly conduct. Bond was set at \$750.

Michael Gregory Hubbard, of the 1800 block of Todd Road, was booked for disorderly conduct. Bond was set at \$750.

Mark Krzyzanowski, of Denver, was booked for disorderly conduct. Bond was set at \$750.

Skyler Timothy Odgers, of Strong City, Kan., was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set

at \$200.

Sandra Nicole Scott, of the 300 block of Sherry Place, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Joshua Lawrence Temple, of Denver, was booked for disorderly conduct. Bond was set at \$750.

Raymond Lloyd Gallant, of Ottawa, Kan., was booked. No charges or bond were listed.

Tonia Lynn Harmon, of the 1000 block of Fremont Street, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$50.

Meghan Jean Mcgee, of the first block of Waterway Place, was booked for probation violation.

Sean Michael Taylor, of the 700 block of Pebblebrook Circle, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Bond was set at \$2,500.

SUNDAY

Benjamin Earl Richardson, of Herrington, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Quinten Charles Watts, of the 600 block of Spring Hill Lane, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Michael Anthony Martinez, of Ogden, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at

\$750.

MONDAY

Earl Wilson Billiot Jr., of the 2400 block of Charolais Lane, was booked for battery. Bond was set at \$500.

Tierra Kirsten Jackson, of the 1400 block of Flint Hills Place, was booked for failure to appear, theft and purchase or consumption of alcoholic liquor by a minor. Bond was set at \$3,000.

Anthony Kirksey Jr., of the 400 block of Juliette Avenue, was booked for driving under the

influence. Bond was set at \$1,000. Germy Terrell Cameron, homeless, was booked for forgery, theft and making false writing. Bond

was set at \$3,500. Orlando Santiago Perez Jr., of the 300 block of Kearney Street, was booked for traffic in contraband in a correctional institution

and delivery or manufacture of a

simulated controlled substance.

Bond was set at \$2,000. Robby Dewayne Robinson, of the 200 block of Westwood Road, was booked for violation of a protective order. Bond was set at

James Lee Woodyard, of the 700 block of Allen Road, was booked for probation violation. Bond was set at \$2,500.

For the rest of the blotter, visit kstatecolleaian.com.



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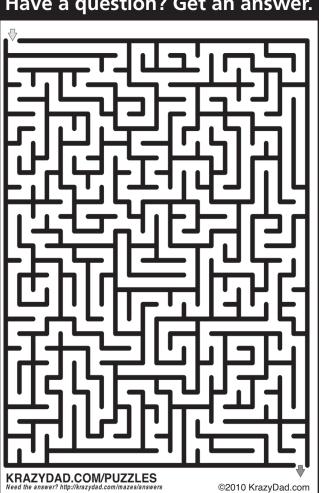
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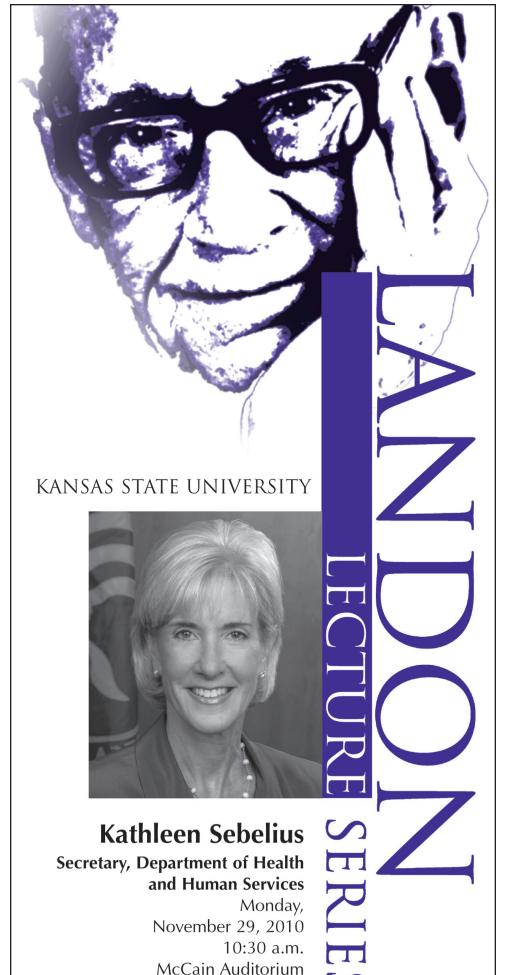
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K-State team looks to find leaders, improve second-half pressure

Ashley Dunkak sports editor

The Wildcats won three games and lost one over Thanksgiving break. Now 5-1 on the season — plus two exhibition victories — K-State has slightly more than a month remaining in its nonconference schedule before tackling Big 12

schedule before tackling Big 12 Conference play.

After defeating then-No. 22/24 Virginia Tech in convincing fashion (73-57) on Nov. 16, the Wildcats faced the Blue Hose on Nov. 18. While Presbyterian only had one player in double figures and K-State had five, the Wildcats' head coach Frank Martin was upset because his forwards — with because his forwards — with the exception of junior walk-on Victor Ojeleye — failed to heed the scouting report on Presby-terian center Al'Lonzo Coleman, who scored 14 points. The teams had the same number of rebounds — 33 — and the Blue Hose outscored the Wildcats 37-32 in the second half of the

"Our team's biggest prob-lem right now is we've got ab-solutely no leadership," Martin said. "See, leadership's not absaid. "See, leadership's not absolutely telling people what to do; leadership's about doing your job. And you do your job the right way every day. When you do your job the right way every day, then people respect that. And then when you can do that, you can demand that others do it. But if you don't do it, those others are never going to respect what you've got to

to respect what you've got to say."

The Wildcats began the week of break with a night game against then-No. 22 Gonzaga. In this game, senior forward Curtis Kelly played for the first time this season. Neither he nor the other Wildcat forwards scored much, however. Gonzaga outscored K-State in the paint, and K-State coughed up 22 turnovers, over half of which came from the big men. The guards carried the scoring load against the Bulldogs. Senior



Jacob Pullen had 18 points, freshman Will Spradling came up with 13 and sophomore Rodney McGruder had 10. In the first half, the Wildcats had nine 3-pointers on 15 attempts.

The next night, in the championship game of the College Basketball Experience Classic, things proved to be nearly the opposite for the Wildcats. Facing Duke, K-State saw the resurgence of Kelly, who finished with 19 points and six rebounds, as well as junior forward Jamar Samuels, who scored 12 points and chipped in six rebounds as well. Pullen had

an uncharacteristic four points on 1-of-12 shooting. K-State shot a dismal 47.8 percent from the free-throw line and an even more damaging 17.6 percent from behind the arc. In contrast, the Blue Devils converted 50 percent of their 3-pointers and 24 free throws on 31

attempts. The Wildcats also turned over the ball 21 times.

Martin seemed more optimistic about the team's leadership after the loss, saying Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski did a better job preparing his guards than Martin did of preparing his. The K-State coach answered definitively the question of whether Duke is deserved. tion of whether Duke is deserv-

ing of the No. 1 ranking.

"They knocked the living piss out of us," Martin said. "If there's a team better than they are, I don't want to play them."

With that in mind, it could be encouraging to Wildcat fans that the K-State bench outscored that of Duke 45-22.

The Wildcats had a longer

time period before their next game, against Texas Southern in Bramlage Coliseum on Friday evening. K-State outrebounded the Tigers 45-26 but were outscored 42-40 in the second half as Texas Southern scored on 12 consecutive possessions. The

See MEN'S, Page 7

Women's basketball comes away with two vacation victories



K-State forward **Brianna Kulas** drives against Indiana State guard **Illyssa Vivo** during the first half of K-State's game against Indiana State in Bramlage Coliseum on Nov. 17. K-State defeated Indiana State 64-48.

Jonathan Knight

Chris Wallace junior staff writer

While many K-State students were away for rest and relaxation, the K-State women's basketball team played two games over the Thanks-giving break. The Wildcats came away with two victories, beating Western Illinois 63-53 and College of Charleston 56-

Starting with the game Nov. 21, K-State was able to fend off another opponent in Western Illinois at Bramlage Coliseum. The game started with poor offensive performances from both the Wildcats and the Leathernecks with both teams failing to score for long periods of time. With 11 minutes remaining in the first half, both teams had scored a combined 14 points.

The Wildcats got some mo-

mentum going before heading to the locker room for halftime. Keyed by the first 3-point basket of the season from junior forward Alina Voroneńko, the team went on an 18-4 run and led at halftime

by a score of 31-16, its largest lead at halftime this year.
K-State also started well to begin the second half and quickly built its largest lead of the game to 24 points with of the game to 24 points with a 48-24 advantage with 11:39

remaining in the second half.
But the Leathernecks would not go away. The team slowly chipped into K-State's lead, while the Wildcats were cold from the field once again, going six minutes without a

field goal at one point.

Despite the 29-15 scoring run that Western Illinois mounted, it was not enough, as the Wildcats held off their opponents and won their fourth game of the season. Leading the way for the

Wildcats was junior forward Jalana Childs, who recorded a career-high with 18 points. Sophomore guards Brittany Chambers, who added 16 points, Taelor Karr, who scored 10 points, and Maria White, who posted a game-

high 5 steals, all had great games as well for the Wildcats. "We are happy to be 4-0," head coach Deb Patterson said following the game. "This following the game. was another game against an opponent that gave us the opportunity to see some

things about ourselves that we have to continue to work on and build off of. I am really pleased with our nonconference slate because it puts us in the position to learn a lot of lessons, and I think Western Illinois did that for us today."

Following the tough victory against Western Illinois, the team made its first road trip of the season on Saturday to face the College of Charleston in South Carolina.

The game was filled with lead changes and ties early on. The Wildcats and the Cougars traded baskets back and forth, and neither team pulled ahead by a large margin, with the largest lead being only four

See WOMEN'S, Page 8

requirements



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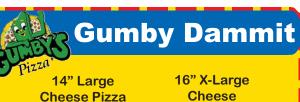
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What one item would be worth shopping for on Black Friday?





Josh Hartman





Deedan McEllhiney

"I suppose if a road bike would be ridiculously on sale, I'd probably get it."



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"Wow, that's a tough one. Usually, I don't even leave the house.







JUNIOR, FLEMENTARY EDUCATION

HEATED HOAX

Republicans question global warming, waste time



Arguing, like many other forms of social interaction, can be a remarkably productive and rewarding venture if undertaken within the right set of assumptions and expectations. One critical factor in a successful verbal exchange is some agreement on the terms of the debate, or the framework for how various claims and predictions would be evaluated.

For example, it's difficult to resolve whether Einstein Bros. Bagels is the best food on campus unless conversation partners agree on a standard for evaluation; taste, nutri tion, service or something else.

Frequently, arguments about a particular claim, such as, "Homosexuality is immoral," are really arguments about framework, such as, "Should we determine morality based on x religious texts, or something else?" That's because without first deciding whether a claim is true, competing arguments will always be two ships passing in the night, achieving nothing and convincing no one. This confusion about what is actually in contention can be particularly dangerous when it hinders the resolutions of serious, time-sensitive issues. I see it happening in Congress and intensifying with the new Republican House. The question, "Is global warming real, and should we act to solve it?" is a costly distraction for the real controversy, which is, "Should we trust science?"

The answer is yes, yet many members of Congress reply with a shrugging of shoulders. This apathy toward the global warming problem is concentrated on one side of the aisle, which is a new phenomenon in American politics.

According to a Nov. 14 article entitled, "How to stop global warming — even if you don't believe in it," by Meg Bostrom of The Washington Post, environmental issues used to be largely nonpartisan. Today, however, surveys show a "sharp and increasing" divide on beliefs about climate change, with Republicans, and especially Tea Party conservatives, expressing the most skepti-

"The idea that global warming is a hoax is no longer a fringe perception but a part of the Republican Party brand," Bostrom said.

This claim is well supported by actions and words coming from Congress. Republicans have polarized the debate beyond their own abilities to compromise, and the result is likely to be a bad next two



illustration by Frank St. George

The Center for American Progress reported that half of the new GOP members of Congress are climate change skeptics. Rep. John Shimkus, R-Ill., campaigning to chair the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which is the congressional body tasked with drafting legislation to combat global warming, claimed in 2009 that people don't have to worry about global warming because God promised after the great flood that he wouldn't mess with the Earth that way again. Republicans in the House rejected the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act, which subsidized efficiency technologies and alternative energy and raised auto mileage standards, 150-4. John Boehner, the new Republican House

majority leader, told ABC News in

2009 that carbon dioxide was not a

threat to the environment because

Republican disregard for climate change is not just disappointing; it's downright dangerous. The scientific community, though it might argue about the details, is not debating about the reality of anthropogenic climate change. Respected publications, such as National Geographic and Scientific American, are unified in its supposition that the problem is real, growing and extremely dangerous. The Bulletin of Atomic Scientist's Doomsday clock lists climate change, along with nuclear weapons and bioterrorism, as one of the biggest threats to human survival.

And that's why this is a debate about framework, rather than fact. It's a debate about how we should determine truth. This realization, and subsequent conversation, will

be vital to turning the tide against growing climate change skepticism.

Science is the best framework for discovering truth because it allows any hypothesis, including "God promised He wouldn't cause global warming," to be tested, but enforces a requirement for evidence and factual support. It's funny that the Republicans lambasting climate science tend to jump on minor inconsistencies in evidence, yet require no proof for their religious claims. The thing about framework is: inconsistency doesn't make sense. If science is the best way to determine truth in every other circumstance, it's the best method to evaluate the problem of and potential solutions to global warming.

Beth Mendenhall is a senior in political science and philosophy. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

"Electronics, they go on sale, like, a lot cheaper."

Cole Sagstetter SOPHOMORE, PSYCHOLOGY





Kelsey Smading SENIOR, LIFE SCIENCES





Collin Mangus SENIOR, EDUCATION

Single students shouldn't hog tables when Hale full



K-Staters, I have yet another concern about the frequenters of Hale Library: they are being slightly inconsiderate of fellow students and I fear, again, there is little that can be done.

On Nov. 2, I wrote about computer use, but I am afraid the problem with Hale frequenters goes beyond their over-dependency on social networking. After working on several group projects the week before break, it became apparent that single library goers feel entitled to hog an entire table to themselves. I'm not saying they are wrong; it just is terribly inconvenient for the rest of the K-State community when they do so. One of the groups I was working with spent an hour and a half searching for a place to study before a table finally opened up. That's ridiculous.

Unfortunately I don't think there is anything that can be done about the problem. Technically the students are doing nothing wrong, but they

are hindering others from accomplishing work. I think the Hale staff might argue having an overcrowded library is better than the alternative of no one in the library at all, but I cannot stand how selfish people have become.

I know this might sound harsh or exaggerated, but after having to wander the halls of Hale looking for a table with a group of three others more than once, I am beyond annoyed. There should be more areas available for groups to work in.

John Bliss, freshman in chemistry, said he hates having to find a workspace when he studies at Hale.

"You have to spend what seems like forever to finally find a place to work," he said. Bliss also said he frequents Hale fairly often, sometimes even mul-

tiple times a day; usually the only times he can find a suitable workspace are during the early morning or lunch hour. So what could K-Staters do to

eradicate this problem? For starters we can petition for more designated group work areas. The library has a dean and staff for a reason. I'm sure they would be more than willing to listen to the needs of the student

There's also the Student Governing Association. We don't just elect senators every year so they can walk



illustration by Frank St. George

around like pompous know-it-alls; make them do something for once that isn't self-uplifting. Ask them to pass a resolution asking for more group study areas in the library.

There's one more option I can offer: exit the comfort zone and sit at a table with others. The people you sit with might be unfamiliar or random at best, but who knows? They could end up being a new friend or significant other.

For those who are not as ambitious when it comes to meeting new people, ehow.com recommends four easy ways to overcome meeting new

people:
"1. Embrace who you are. 2. Develop yourself. 3. Identify ways in which you are a

phony. 4. Do not be a victim of a negative self-fulfilling prophecy."

The point I'm trying to make here is, let's work to make Hale a better place for all students, not just the ones who were lucky enough to stumble upon a table first.

Tim Schrag is a junior in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

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MAKING THE GRADE?

Wildcats show improvement in early games, immaturity

Ashley Dunkak sports editor

Six games into the season, it's nearly the end of November, and the Wildcats are closing in on Christmas break, which means more nonconference games before January brings Big 12 Conference opponents. Here's a look at where they are now and where they still need to go.

Veterans.....

Senior forward Curtis Kelly didn't play until the College Basketball Experience Classic, and senior guard Jacob Pullen scored only four points against Duke in the championship game of the tournament. The sophomore class has been brilliant at times — but that phrase "at times" constitutes inconsistency, which has certainly been the case. Several times guard Rodney McGruder has been the leading rebounder, which speaks for his tenacity but does not make the frontcourt look too good.

Obviously, the team is only six games into the season, and it has already played three ranked opponents, so there's lots of time for improvement. As the team is as deep as any in the country, improvement will come.

Newcomers.....

Several players new to K-State have had effects on this season. Junior transfer Freddy Asprilla - who Martin said

basically played two games last season in junior college — is starting for the Wildcats. While the first few games have been rough, Asprilla is showing improvement and should turn into a solid presence in the paint.

Freshman guard Will Spradling looked competent early on but really proved himself, playing 18 minutes at point against a ranked Virginia Tech while senior Jacob Pullen sat on the bench because of foul trouble. He has shot the ball well and been in the right place on defense more often than not, taking charges on a regular basis. Asprilla and Spradling have made the most apparent contributions as newcomers, but it's looking like they won't be the only ones, as other freshmen have shown promise in their minutes

Guards.....

In basically every game except the one against Duke, the Wildcats have converted a decent number of 3-pointers. Between Pullen, Spradling, McGruder, sophomore Nick Russell and freshmen Shane Southwell and Nino Williams, K-State has an arsenal from behind the arc.

Overall, the backcourt has looked fairly solid on defense as well, drawing charges, getting steals and generally doing a good job of contesting shots. Again, there's plenty of room to grow, and hopefully the Wildcats will take advantage of that.

Forwards.....

We've seen many, many big men in and out of games. That's awesome because it means the team is deep. On the other hand, it means clear leaders might not have emerged in those positions. In the Texas Southern game, it seemed like the bigs began to get a better feel for playing together; Kelly had four assists, and Asprilla and sophomore Jordan Henriquez-Roberts looked like they knew what to expect from each other, particularly on one possession when they just kept the ball going toward the basket after the other missed until the ball finally went in the

Martin has said repeatedly that he loves this team, but he also says the players have some growing up to do. After the Presbyterian game, he said as much.

'We like our locker room; we're just immature," Martin said. "We're the most immature team I've ever coached. Great team, great kids, but we're the most immature team I've ever coached."

The immaturity was especially evident as the Wildcats allowed Texas Southern to outscore them 42-40 in the second half after holding the Tigers to only 18 points in the first half. Being relentless for 40 minutes is not optional, and it's going to take awhile for everyone to really understand that and

commit to acting accordingly.

Again, it's early in the season. As the freshmen and sophomores realize the kind of competition they will face twice a

week as Big 12 Conference play starts, they will indeed start to grow up - at

Leadership.....

Before the CBE Classic, Martin said several times the team has absolutely no leadership. That culminated up to the Presbyterian game, when he said the upperclassmen needed to look in the mirror because junior walk-on Victor Ojeleye had been the best leader on the team.

But after the Duke game, the coach seemed more optimistic. The coaching staff has been trying to force leadership on the players, Martin said, because the team can't wait until January for the guys to get comfortable and embrace those responsibilities.

Again, it's early in the season. Like everything else, this will improve as the season progresses.

Potential.....

Tonight K-State faces Emporia State. The Hornets are 3-2 on the season and currently riding a three-game win streak. They have four players averaging in double figures: senior forwards Adam Holthaus and Michael Tyler and senior guards Xavier Burnette and Matt Boswell. The Hornets have eight seniors, three juniors, one sophomore and one freshman, so Emporia State is an experienced team. Obviously, as a Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association team, the Hornets are not likely to upset the Wildcats, but stranger things have happened.

All in all, though, K-State has the talent, depth, coaching and chemistry to go far into March and maybe even into April ... so long as the players can forgot that possibility and focus on one game at a time.

K-State, North Texas struggle to pass football; Wildcats show resilience to overcome deficit



In a 49-41 victory to end the regular season for K-State, both the "Lynch Mob" defense of the Wildcats past and the defense of the North Texas team named for "Mean Joe Greene" were practically nonexistent. Nevertheless, K-State managed to get a seventh win for head coach Bill Snyder, who got his first win as the Wildcats coach against North Texas in 1989.

Enabled by his teammates, senior running back Daniel

Thomas had a career game, moving into the top 10 in K-State history in multiple categories, including all-time rushing, all-time all-purpose yards and carries, among others. He finished with 269 rushing yards on 36 carries. Thomas got two touchdowns in the game.

What tells you this was truly a shootout, however, was this: North Texas junior running back Lance Dunbar had more yards than Thomas. He scooted for 270 yards in the game on only 22 carries. Of course, Dunbar originally had offers from Big 12 schools, so this is obviously a really talented guy.

Both teams struggled with passing; the Wildcats had 77 yards through the air, and the Mean Green gained 123. Senior Carson Coffman started the game, and

sophomore Collin Klein came in during the second half but never attempted a pass.

The two-quarterback stem seems to still be the modus operandi for the Wildcats, and K-State did get benefits from both Coffman and Klein. Coffman threw for one touchdown; Klein ran for

The Wildcats won the turnover battle, as both teams lost a fumble but the Mean Green quarterback also threw an interception. Both K-State and North Texas also got huge kickoff returns for touchdowns. Senior wide receiver Aubrey Quarles got one for 92 yards, and freshman kick returner Brelan Chancellor took another 93 yards for the Mean Green.

The game was true to form in that it was not pretty, but the Wildcats never gave up.

Donáhue,

setter, sets the

Wildcats finish

ball against

Also, they overcame a 20-7 first quarter deficit and scored 28 consecutive points on the way to closing that distance. This is significant for them because they usually win when they score first, but traditionally it's been more difficult when they have to come from behind

With the win, K-State ended a two-game slide that consisted of losses to Missouri and Colorado. After becoming bowl eligible with a Senior Night victory over Texas, the Wildcats will know on Dec. 5 what bowl they will go to. Right now the most likely possibility seems to be the Pinstripe Bowl in New York

Ashley Dunkak is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications and Spanish. Please send comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu.



Senior running back **Daniel Thomas** runs from a North Texas player during Saturday's game in Denton, Texas. The Wildcats won 49-41, and Thomas finished with 269 rushing yards on 36 carries. With the win, K-State ended its two-game losing streak.

Volleyball team ends season with wins over KU, Colorado

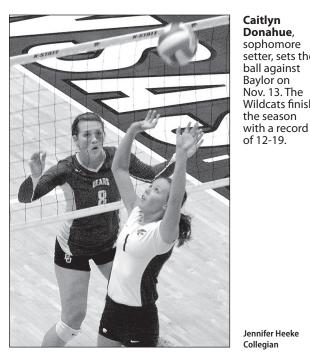
Sam Nearhood

The K-State volleyball team closed out its season on a high note with a loss followed by two hard-fought victories over Thanksgiving

In the first of two road matches, the Wildcats dropped the contest to Oklahoma 1-3 but rebounded with a 3-2 victory in this season's final Śunflower Showdown over Kansas. On Senior Night, K-State found favor 3-2 once more with another match that came down to the wire against Colora-

K-State 3, Colorado 2

The games oscillated between the two teams, with K-State (12-19, 6-14 Big 12 Conference) emerging on top in the end. The first game went to the Wildcats 25-22 after a tepid start eventually heated up, but Colorado (6-20, 3-17 Big 12 Conference) snatched up the next 25-20 after siding out 69 percent and putting up a handful of big runs. After the break, K-State took its second 25-22 in irregular play that slightly depressed its stats, but the Buffaloes moved the match into a fifth game by winning its own second 25-23 after a comeback from being down 12-19. In the fifth game, the



Jennifer Heeke

Wildcats dominant were throughout and racked up a clean seven-point run to toe the victory line, with senior outside hitter JuliAnne Chisholm ceremoniously putting away the final attack to

win on her Senior Night. There were many top performances Saturday night, but the award goes to senior libero Lauren Mathewson, who posted 22 digs in her final match, bumping her season total to 540, which

is the third most digs in one

season at K-State, yet anoth-

er record for her. In the front line, freshman middle blocker Kaitlynn Pelger posted 18 kills on the night with a .469 hitting percentage and a double-double with 11 digs.

"It was tremendous to end with a win," head coach Suzie Fritz said. "It took us a little bit, but once we got going, we played really well in game five."

For recaps on the other two games, visit kstatecollegian.com.

Fight for bowl eligibility is over; Snyder needs to look to future



Nowadays, most ragtag groups find themselves hoisting a championship trophy at year's end. This group was not so lucky.

Senior running back Daniel Thomas was a steady stream of power and raw ability. The quarterback position had more question marks than the Riddler's costume. The defense was overwhelmed with power running attacks. North Texas junior running back Lance Dunbar had five carries for 161 yards at one point in time during Saturday's game.

Through all of their problems, though, K-State won seven games and should head to a bowl, where it will have a chance to win eight games. This team, no matter how tall the wall, never gave up or shrugged its shoulders.

As has been discussed before, this team was not pretty. There were plenty of moments that caused frustration. But the Wildcats found a way to do something a K-State team had not done in quite some time, and that was becoming bowl eligible. Give

head coach Bill Snyder credit for helping calm the waters.

This is not to suggest that this season removes doubt about the length of Snyder's second go-around. In fact, this season raises doubts, if anything. Next year will be better. But, the question remains whether this team will go down in K-State history as a team of remembrance or a team that will be forgotten.

The first step is the hardest. This program now has some momentum heading into next year. More practices can only raise expectations, and they rightfully should.

Under Snyder's first tenure, the Powercat logo on the side of the team's helmet came The Wildcats

responded to the

challenge and made

the most of their

college careers.

For that and for a

possible bowl trip I

am thankful.

to represent more than mediocrity. To capture the past, Snyder needs to go back and capture past figures. Jim Leavitt's name is carried on

the lips of K-State faithful. Leavitt, a de-K-State's resurgence, which started and ended with the

fensive assistant under Snyder in the mid-1990s, was part of defense. Leavitt, formerly the head coach at South Florida, was fired after he allegedly physically abused a player last season.

Not to understate the

seriousness of the altercation, but Leavitt's presence is needed

Could you imagine if Leavitt and junior linebacker Arthur Brown — a transfer from Miami who sat out this season due to eligibility rules — are paired together? Both men resurrecting their once promising careers together. It is what inspirational Sports Illustrated and ESPN features are made of - not to mention football programs looking for solid

footing. So Snyder, go out and grab the man who put K-State on the college football map and make Saturdays in Manhattan a nightmare for opponents

again. It is your only move. This ragtag

group did what it was asked to do. The Wildcats responded to the challenge and made the most of their college careers. For that and for a possible bowl trip I am

thankful. But K-State needs to make a major move to get back to the top of the national rankings.

You can only root for the underdogs for so long.

Paul Harris is a senior in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu.

TACKY TIMES

Gaudy sweaters can bring fun to holiday party season











While holiday parties can be all about the glitz and glam, one of the most fun holiday traditions is the tacky Christmas sweater party, where fashionable sweaters are frowned upon and the gaudiest pieces receive praise. What could be better?

Not only do you not have to worry about looking up to par, seeing others' wardrobes is extremely fun — especially when it's a vintage sweater that is disgustingly awesome. The only way to pull off this ridiculous look is by having fun with it. What a wonderful time of year to dress warm and cozy while still being festive. What other holiday tradition gives you the freedom to dress so out of style?

ress so out of style?
Finding the perfect, or
not so perfect, sweater is
the trick. An easy solution is searching through
used clothing stores like
the Salvation Army and
Goodwill. You might not
find exactly what you're
looking for, but you could
add some gaudiness to a
sweater that has already

been started.

"We always went to the Salvation Army and looked for the most tacky sweater ever," said Kayla Hoskins, junior in animal sciences and industry. "My family always does an annual tacky sweater party for Christmas, so we have a lot of fun. I've accumulated a lot throughout the years."

Before going out and searching in stores, don't forget to look through your parents' closets. Crazy enough, but many tacky sweaters were fashionable at one point and sold in other stores besides secondhand ones. Chances



Try some festive candy canes with a matching cap for a more traditional take on the tacky sweater trend.

are the holy grail of gaudy sweaters is hidden in a relative's closet, just waiting to be worn again.

If you are feeling really creative, then try making your own. All the supplies can be found at Wal-Mart or Hobby Lobby. A simple crewneck sweatshirt could replace the sweater, then you can embellish with pom-pom balls, rick rack and other ridiculous ornaments — all in holiday-appropriate colors, of course. Throw some jingle bells around your wrists to add some noise to your already noisy top. The more glitz you can add the better.

"I just love how gorgeous they really are — lots of bling and glitz on them and big pearl snaps. I don't really dig the shoulder pads, but I like being comfy," Hoskins said.

Adding some holiday jewelry, such as Christmas tree-shaped earrings, will add the finishing touches to your perfectly tasteless sweater. A large bow in

your hair and some tall red and white striped socks will take the festivities from head to toe. If the sweater is long enough, wear with black stirrup pants or leggings, depending on how conspicuous

you want to look.

For men, tacky sweaters follow the same guidelines as for women, and many of the same headgear works as well to complete the look. On the bottom, consider a pair of footie long john pajamas with obnoxiously bright slippers to finish everything off.

Tacky Christmas sweater parties are a festive, comfortable alternative to getting dressed up for a glamorous holiday party and can be infinitely more fun. Get your friends together for a gift exchange and make the attire tacky.

Larissa Ost is a junior in apparel and textiles. Ariel Burress is a sophomore in apparel and textiles. Please send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu.



photos by Tiffany Roney | Collegian

What better way to provide comic relief to stressful holiday preparations than to throw on a tacky Christmas sweater? This easy-to-make apparel is simultaneously gross and glorious.

HOROSCOPES



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Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 19If Black Friday got you down, just remember there's always another sale next week.



Aquarius Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
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Aries March 21 - April 19
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Taurus April 20 - May 20 If you teach your professor a new holiday anthem each class, you might not get homework



Gemini May 21 - June 20Now that Four Loko is banned in Kansas, try avoiding the rush to a liquor store to buy some.



Cancer June 21 - July 22December is only a couple days away, which means it is time to stop wearing shorts.



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Virgo Aug. 23 - Sept. 22 Life is only as interesting as you decide to make it. Time to spice things up a bit.



Libra Sept. 23 - Oct. 22 Homework is intimidating after a week of vacation; however, you are still capable of it.



Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21Welcome home from turkey fest; prepare to cry your way through the joy of finals.

-Compiled by Elena Buckner

Sunset Zoo's 'greenbreaking' ceremony kicks off new center



Visitors to the Sunset Zoo learn about turtles at the annual Easter weekend Eggstravaganza event on April 4. A new education center building is scheduled for completion on Earth Day in 2012.

Zoo officials: Education building to create more space, help with outreach

Karen Ingram opinion editor

The Sunset Zoo staff anticipated about 50 people would gather in the south parking lot for its "greenbreaking" ceremony to celebrate the upcoming education center building on Nov. 19. To the surprise and delight of many, twice as many attended — more than 100.

The "greenbreaking" ceremony was a combination of a groundbreaking and tree planting ceremony. Children from the K-State Center for Child Development helped to plant a small elm tree while onlookers applauded them.

Mayor Bruce Snead gave a short speech to express his gratitude for the Sunset Zoo's contributions to the Manhattan community and congratulate them on the new education center. The \$4.2-million facility is slated to open to the public on Earth Day

"We're so fortunate to have this zoo," Snead said. "To have a zoo like this in a town this size is a real treasure."

The idea for the building was first introduced in 1998, Scott Shoemaker, director of the Sunset Zoo said.

Making the new education center a reality was no easy task and required fundraising efforts and advocation of many groups, including the Manhattan City Commission, the Manhattan Parks and Recreation Department, Friends of the Sunset Zoo, voters of Manhattan and more.

"This building is just going to be phenomenal," said Jared Bixby, curator of education for the Sunset Zoo.

Shoemaker said the zoo currently has one classroom. The new education center will provide the zoo with four new classrooms, each tailored to specific age groups. It will also contain rentable space for meetings and gatherings, new office space for the zoo staff and a distance learning center.

The zoo plans to convert the old administrative buildings into a small pharmacy and hospital for the animals and to convert

Send your questions to edge@spub.ksu.edu

Life. Love. Money. Career. Fashion. Whatever.

RESULTS MAY VARY

the current education building into a special events building for birthdays and gatherings.

Allie Lousch, marketing director of the Sunset Zoo, said she was excited about the new education center, especially the opportunities the distance learning center will provide. Lousch said the zoo already has distance learning programs in place to reach out to the community, such as the Zoo-mobile, but the new center will allow it to televise programs to children in classrooms across Kansas, which will be immensely beneficial to schools that cannot afford field trips to the zoo.

Lousch also said the education center will help the zoo become more efficient in serving the community by consolidating many of its services into one place.

"It'll become the capstone of the zoo," Lousch said.

Mary Carter, Manhattan resident, said she looked forward to the new education center and thought it would be a great way to facilitate summer and after school programs for children.

"This is going to be a great addition to Manhattan," said Lisa Sisley, member of Friends of the

by SARA GUDDE

JILIN Languages create problems

Continued from Page 1 Overcoming obstacles

For Fu, one of the biggest obstacles of the visit was communication.

"The biggest regret is the language; this goes both ways. We can have a common language to speak to each other directly, that would be the higher level of the art appreciation including words, expression and exchange directly," he said. "So in the future, both ways should learn more of the language of each other and then express and communicate directly."

And it was the language barriers that might have caused problems during the visit.

"For the exhibit on Sunday when I met them, they were very worried about if the preparation is fine there," said Jane Chen, volunteer and assistant professor of finance, regarding the art display.

With information about the necessities for the display lost somewhere through e-mail and translation, the exhibit was not prepared the way the delegation was expecting. Many of the volunteers including Wu, Chen and Lu said there was frustration at the beginning of the trip tied to the

'The issue they had early on was communication before they visited and cultural differences," Lu said. "I'm from China, and I know what they would be expecting. Certain things we just cannot do here David Graff, associate pro-

fessor of history, said when he attended the art exhibit he sensed the frustration as well.

'There was clearly a mismatch between the expectations of the delegations and what we provided. That was very likely the result of miscommunication before their visit," he said. "There was certain equipment and things they needed for their display that they expected to have here that weren't.

Lu said with the type of art that was being exhibited, there are certain ways it would be displayed in China.

When they talked to me about it, I can totally relate, but I also realize there are things we just can't do," he said.

Members of the delegation helped to set up the display the day of the exhibit and also accompanied volunteers to the store to purchase necessary lights for the display.

Wu said problems with communication are indicators of the importance to increase the learning and teaching of the Chinese language.
"This experience showed

K-State's needs for training on Chinese language and Chinese culture. We do not have enough people on campus who can company or translate when the visitors are here," she said in an e-mail. "In all measures, economics, politics and environment, China is important for the 21st century, and Chinese language is one of five critical languages to the

Benefits of exchange

While there were difficulties to overcome throughout the visit, the overall perspective was positive.

"It is very important for mutual beneficial and mutual exchange of culture, music, knowledge and international education. This could be seen as the beginning of the relationship between Jilin University and Kansas State University," Fu said. "This will be the beginning of many possibilities coming."

Many volunteers and those involved felt the delegation's trip was a great step in continuing a strong cultural relationship with the university.

"I think there is a lot of benefit; Jilin University is a very reputable university in China," Chen said. "It's a very strong university, and if we can keep a good relationship with them — exchange faculty members, exchange students — that can increase our influence in China, and that can also help our recruitment to K-State."

Looking toward the future, the universities hope to continue and foster the partner-

ship.
"I felt very happy to meet
with (the delegation); they seemed very upbeat," said Provost April Mason. "The meeting with me indicated they were very excited. They looked forward to working together, and bottom line, that's the most important thing."

MEN'S | Team turnovers common

Continued from Page 3

Wildcats again had trouble with turnovers, giving the ball away 19 times.

We really faded away from what we were doing earlier in the game — really pressuring it, really making them take tough shots," said Pullen, who had 16 points, 7 assists and 4

steals in the game. "We started to take our foot off the gas because we figured it was over with, and they made shots. They saw we was decelerating; they put their foot on the gas. Those are minor mistakes that we have to fix, and these are the games to tune it up."

Maybe the biggest 180 between the Duke game and this subsequent one was K-State did noticeably better from the foul line: 13-of-19 for the game and 75 percent in the first half. The Wildcats also shot nearly 50 percent from the floor. Many of those shots came because of all those rebounds; K-State outscored Texas Southern 24-2 as far as second-chance points.



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2

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Rules: Fill in the grid so that each row, column, and 3x3 block contains 1-9 exactly once.

9

3

3 7 5 1 6 2 8 4 9 4 1 6 7 9 8 5 2 3 5 3 8 2 4 1 9 6 7 2 9 7 6 3 5 4 1 8 Answer to the last 6 4 1 9 8 7 3 5 2 7 5 3 8 1 4 2 9 6

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Locals line up for holiday food from Flint Hills Breadbasket



Collegian file illustration

Brittany Stevens junior staff writer

Many students headed home last week for the Thanksgiving holiday, gathering with their families around tables of copious amounts of turkey and all its fixings - without another thought.

But for some in Riley County, the "traditional" meal was out of reach.

Bumper to bumper traffic lined Yuma Street for blocks the Monday before Thanksgiving for the Flint Hills Breadbasket's holiday food basket pickup. So many planned to show up at the drive-through distribution that the Breadbasket had to apply for a parade permit.

The 2000 census reported 20.6 percent of Riley County lived at or below the poverty level — one in five residents. Compared to other counties in Kansas, Riley County had the

highest percentage of poverty.

"A lot of people really are blinded to the thought that hunger really does exist in Manhattan," said Natascha Phillip, executive director of the Flint Hills Breadbasket. "We are like other communities. We have real homeless people that do not have a home — that sleep in the park."

Phillip described poverty in Manhattan as "hidden" yet "addressed."

The Breadbasket and its annual community-wide campaign, the Mayor's Holiday Food and Fund Drive, address the local food crisis. Thousands of families sat down to a holiday meal and can do so again for Christmas because of the

Food and Fund Drive.

Collections for the fundraiser, which runs from Nov. 1 through Dec. 31, not only provide the Breadbasket with food for holiday food baskets, but will also supply the funds needed to make the nonprofit function for the next year.

Food and monetary donations given during the twomonth span support all of the programs the Breadbasket offers. Donations fund pro-grams like Adopt-A-Family and the emergency food pantries set up at several Manhattan churches.

To donate, citizens can mail checks directly to the Breadbasket or drop off food items at the Breadbasket or at area businesses, schools and organiza-tions that have set up collection

Manhattan's Landmark National Bank, joining in on the food drive this year, has parked a Ray's Apple Market shopping cart in the middle of its lobby to gather donations from its patrons for the next month.

Susanna Ruder, branch manager of Landmark National Bank, called the drive "a good effort — something that is so simple." She said her 4-year-old daughter is one of her personal motivations to participate.

"The thought of her ever

being hungry is heartbreaking for me," Ruder said.

Besides the collection boxes around town, another opportunity to give is at 6 p.m. Friday at the Mayor's Spirit of the Holiday Lighted Parade, starting at Manhattan Town Center and ending in Aggieville, which is followed by the Mayor's Tree

Lighting in Triangle Park.

Phillip said, the holiday events celebrate the season and bring the Manhattan community together, but they were created by former Mayor Ed Klimek with a "twist" in mind. Instead of handing out candy like most city parades, the attendees are asked to bring donations for the drive.

Every Manhattan mayor since the inception of the drive, parade and tree lighting, has participated. Mayor Bruce Snead contributes by getting the word out about the fundraiser and distributing food baskets to Manhattan families.

The Mayor's Holiday Food and Fund Drive is "a wonderful, diverse effort to generate food and funds in a variety of venues and events in the holi-

day season," Snead said.
Perishable items in high demand for the rest of the campaign include turkeys, whole chickens, ham, roasts, milk, eggs and potatoes. Canned pumpkin, cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, canned yams and canned fruit are included in the nonperishable needs, according to the Breadbasket's website.

The Breadbasket needs canned meat, jelly, pancake mix and maple syrup, right now as well, Phillip said, yet it welcomes all new and unopened donations.

Because of the Mayor's Holiday Food and Fund Drive, Phillip said low-income families can share in holiday traditions that they could not have otherwise, while the Breadbasket receives what it needs to get the community through the cold winter months.

Women place 25th in nation

Name

Martina Tresch

Sydney Messick

Meghan Heuer

Boglarka Bozzay

Alyssa Bellinder

Laura Lee Baird

Avery Clifton

The women's cross country team placed 25th in the NCAÁ Championship on Monday, capping off a remarkable turnaround, which has taken place over the course of several years. Of 343 teams all trying to get to the national meet, K State is one of 31 that qualified. It was the first time in 10 years the Wildcats have done so.

Before leaving for the meet in Terre Haute, Ind., where the team races each year in the Pre-Nationals Invitational, head coach Michael Smith said the team's goal was to finish between 25th and 30th — anything higher than that would be an achievement beyond ex-

"I would highlight that three, four years ago in 2007 we were 12th in the Big 12, and two girls that were on this team — Alyssa Bellinder and Sydney Messick — were on that team, and to have come from that to this, is extraordinary," he said.

Smith said the seniors Messick and Bellinder have perspective that other kids might not have. The freshmen are accustomed to being on a good team because K-State was that when they arrived; they don't know what it was like three or four years ago.

The coach was there then, and those two seniors were there, and Beverly Ramos, who graduated last year and has assisted with the team this season, was there.

"I have a great deal of respect for them for sticking with it because it seemed at that time that we're stuck in a hole and we can't get out," Smith

Place Time Sophomore 21:09 Senior 57 21:12 Freshman 137 21:57 Freshman 22:02 Junior 22:16 Senior 22:33 Sophomore 22:54

*Top five individual finishes count toward the team finish.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

said. "But we got out." Messick remembered her freshman season, being stuck in that hole.

"When I got here, we had a good group of girls, but we just couldn't get it together for some reason," Messick said. "I remember that day we got 12th. We thought we could do better, and we saw the results and we were just so devastated. We didn't give up, though."

"I have a great deal of respect for them for sticking with it because it seemed at that time that we're stuck in a hole and we can't get out. But we got out."

Michael Smith

Smith said the team got some talent this season in its freshman class, particularly in Avery Clifton and Meghan Heuer. He said they followed the example of the upperclass-

men and consequently made big contributions to the team.

Those two freshmen, they just come to practice and do what the other ones are doing, so they're at a whole different level than what they were doing before," Smith said, "and it's worked out for us that they're healthy and they survived ... So we've gotten better because of them and because of the upperclassmen setting a tone?

Boglarka Bozzay echoed the coach's sentiments, and said Messick as a leader and the freshmen — as exemplary followers - were keys in the competitiveness of the team this season.

"(Messick) just had the whole team put together, and she was a really good influence, and then we got two freshmen that just came along and they just ran really, really good," she said. "You usually don't expect much from the freshmen because they're just trying to get used to the hard practices, but they just came out and they just did whatever we did, and it was really good."

WOMEN'S | Cougars fall to pressure

Continued from page 3

Junior forward Branshea Brown, in a return to her home state, scored a jumpshot as time expired in the half to give her team a 33-29 lead at halftime.

The key for the Wildcats in the first half was their 3-point shooting, as the team was 7-14 from behind the

Karr and Chambers continued their strong play with 14 and 9 points, respectively, to lead the team.

The second half saw K-State surging to more comfortable leads. But each time the Wildcats looked to put the Cougars away, they would cut right back into that lead and put pressure on the Wildcats.

The Wildcats were able to finally ice the game with tough defense and clutch shooting. The Wild-cats forced the College of Charleston into 17 turnovers and finished the game shooting nearly 40 percent from

Chambers led the Wildcats with 17 points, and Karr set a season-high with 16. Brown also had a solid performance, adding 10 points, five rebounds, three steals, and two blocks.

The Wildcats return to Bramlage Coliseum at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, where they will take on two-time Summit League champions South Dakota State.

PEACE | People weigh wages, safety

Continued from page 1

use a more indirect form of communication, and though it took a while to adjust to it, my experience has enabled me to more effectively communicate and relate to a more

diverse group of people."

This type of immersion gives volunteers more than just a textbook, classroom experience, but rather provides a first-hand experience that helps distinguish oneself from

The downside

Although it boasts benefits, it is hard to ignore the shortcomings of the Peace Corps program, and some of them can be brutally dangerous.

Serving the Peace Corps is a two-and-a-quarter-year commitment. Volunteers often live in poor conditions and are exposed to completely new surroundings and culture. The food is different, the air is different and the drinking water is different, perhaps even unsanitary. Many thirdworld countries, in which vol-

have easily accessible health clinics, and even if they do, equipment is often outdated or sometimes even inoper-

These conditions put Peace Corps members in risk of contracting severe diseases such as HIV/AIDS, cholera, dysentery and salmonella, and although the U.S. government provides payment for top-notch health care, the accessibility of hospitals in certain countries is unreliable at

Sickness is just one hazard of serving in a developing country. According to Peace Corps statistics, there were 128 incidents of sexual assault or rape in the year 2008 alone. Those were just the cases that were reported to officials.

On top of risking health and safety, Peace Corps members are not exactly compensated handsomely. After their service, members are paid roughly \$7,000 in salary. The average salary of a college graduate, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, is roughly

\$47,600 per year. As Peace Corps members, volunteers give up two years of earning potential, putting the average opportunity cost at \$88,200.

A growing trend

In light of all of those facts, this program has survived and is growing. The attitude of volunteers like Flynn is the same being passed on to younger generations.

"It is definitely something that I will seriously consider doing after I have finished school," said Rudy Date, freshmen in environmental design. "I know it doesn't pay much, and I spend two years of my life committed to it, but I also know that in the end I'd come home as a more mature, experienced person who did something meaningful with my life. It would be my way to

make my mark in history." Despite its critics, the Peace Corps remains one of the most respected federal programs and continues to spread its message and helping hand to other countries, one volunteer at a time.



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